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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/821,083	04/08/2004	David A. Dowland	0254-0003	1132
33297	7590	03/16/2006	EXAMINER	
BEEM PATENT LAW FIRM 53 W. JACKSON BLVD., SUITE 1352 CHICAGO, IL 60604-3787			BHAT, ADITYA S	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2863	

DATE MAILED: 03/16/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/821,083	DOWLAND ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Aditya S. Bhat	2863	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 14 March 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-19 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 3-8 and 12-19 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2 and 9-11 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 12 and 13 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 08 April 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>4/8/04</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

Applicant's election without traverse of group 1 consisting of claims 1-2 and 9-13 in the reply filed on January 4, 2006 is acknowledged.

Claim Objections

Claims 12-13 are objected to because of the following informalities: a claim in dependent form shall contain a reference to a claim previously set forth and then specify a further limitation of the subject matter claimed. A claim in dependent form shall be construed to incorporate by reference all the limitations of the claim to which it refers. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-2 and 9-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Boatman et al. (USPN 4,074,188).

With regards to claim 1, Boatman et al. (USPN 4,074,188) teaches a system for inductance testing a plurality of planar magnetic circuits, comprising:

a substrate; (figure 2)

a core (60;figure 2) spaced and electrically isolated from one another and mounted on said substrate, wherein each one of said plurality of cores registers with a corresponding one of said planar magnetic circuits; (figure 2)

a pair of leads; (col. 3, lines 59-61)

a controller for selecting one of said plurality of planar magnetic circuits and contacting said pair of leads with said selected planar magnetic circuit and delivering an electrical current through said selected planar magnetic circuit while the corresponding registered core enhances inductance in said selected planar magnetic circuit; (80; figure 3) (col. 4, lines 45-49) and

an inductance measuring tool. (Col. 6, lines 53-62)

With regards to claim 2, Boatman et al. (USPN 4,074,188) teaches a bed in said substrate for registering said plurality of planar magnetic circuits with said plurality of cores. (Figure 2)

With regards to claim 9, Boatman et al. (USPN 4,074,188) teaches method for inductance testing a board having a planar magnetic circuit and a pair of contacts, comprising the steps of:

providing a substrate having an electrically isolated core and bed; (figure 2)

loading said board on said bed to register said planar magnetic circuit with said core; (col. 1, lines 35-40)

providing a pair of leads and a plate; (col. 3, lines 59-61)

contacting said pair of leads with said pair of contacts and said plate with said core using a controller; (80; figure 3) (col. 4, lines 45-49)

delivering an electrical current through said planar magnetic circuit while said plate and said core enhance inductance in said planar magnetic circuit; (see abstract) measuring inductance in said planar magnetic circuit; and determining whether said inductance is in a predetermined range. (col. 6, lines 53-62) (see abstract)

With regards to claim 10, Boatman et al. (USPN 4,074,188) teaches ablating at least a portion of said board if said inductance is not in said predetermined range. (col. 1, lines 25-29)

With regards to claim 11, Boatman et al. (USPN 4,074,188) teaches analyzing said board to identify a defect if said inductance is not in said predetermined range; and improving a design of said board to overcome said defect. (col. 1, lines 25-29)

With regards to claim ¹²~~10~~, Boatman et al. (USPN 4,074,188) teaches a board approved by a method according to claim 9. (col. 1, lines 25-29)

With regards to claim ¹³~~10~~, Boatman et al. (USPN 4,074,188) teaches a board improved by a method according to claim 11. (col. 1, lines 25-29)

Boatman et al. (USPN 4,074,188) discloses the claimed invention except for testing of plurality of circuits. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to, to test a plurality of circuits since it has been held that mere duplication of the essential working parts of a device involves only routine skill in the art. St. Regis Paper Co. v. Bemis Co., 193 USPQ 8.

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Saltsov et al. (USPUB 2004/0130318) teaches an induction

Art Unit: 2863

sensor using a printed circuit, Tam (USPN 6,819,120) teaches a non-contact surface conductivity measurement probe.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Aditya S. Bhat whose telephone number is 571-272-2270. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 9-5:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Barlow can be reached on 571-272-2269. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Aditya Bhat
March 13, 2006

BRYAN BUI
PRIMARY EXAMINER

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Bryan Bui', is written below the printed name and title.